

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INRE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 FEA-01 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-04 FPC-01 H-01

INR-05 INT-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01

SAM-01 OES-02 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01

AECE-00 /089 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5920

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR DATE-TIME-GROUP AND FILE TIME

NEW DELHI FOR THE SECRETARY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EALR, ENRG, EFIN, FR GW

SUBJECT: FRG REACTION TO GISCARD'S CALL FO OIL
PRODUCER-CONSUMER MEETING

REF: PARIS 25397

KATZ-CROWLEY TELECON, OCTOBER 26

1. GERMAN PRESS QUOTED FRG PRESS SPOKESMAN BOELLING AS SAYING THAT FRENCH PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR AN OIL PRODUCER-CONSUMER MEETING WAS "BASICALLY JGDG IN A POSITIVE SENSE". BOELLING RECALLED THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMDT, WHEN HE WAS STILL FIANCE MINISTER, HAD PROPOSED SUCH A MEETING IN HIS SPEECH AT THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE IN FEBRUARY. IN THE VIEW OF THE FRG GOVERNMENT, SUCH A MEETING SHOULD SEEK TO FIND A SATISFACORY BALANCING OF THE INTERESTS OF ALL STATES WHICH ARE INTERESTED IN THE POPER FUNCTIONING OF THE WORLD ECONOMY. BOELLING ADDED, THAT THE FRG GOVERNMENT WELCOMES FRANCE'S REVIEWING HE PROPOSAL FOR SUCH A CONFERENCE. THE DETAILS WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED AMONG THE NINE STATES. BUT THE FRG GOVERNMENT IS CONFIDENT THAT THIS IDEA WILL ALSO BE RECEIVED POSITIVELY BY THE REMAINING CONSUMER PRODUCER, AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S REACTION TO GISCARD'S INITIATIVE, FOLLOWNG AS IT DID, BY ONE DAY THE CABINET'S APPROVAL OF THE FRG'S PARTICIPATION IN THE IEP (BONN'S 16708) SHOULD BE VIEWED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FRG'S PERCEPTION OF GISCARD'S NEW STYLE OF LEADESHIP AT HOME AND WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND THE CHANCELLOR'S PRIVATELY EXPRESSED VIEWS THAT GISCARD SHOULD BE GIVEN EVERY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO BOLSTER HIS DIFFICULT POSITION VIS-A-VIS HIS COALITION PARTNERS. THE FRG'S QUIK ACCEPTANCE OF THE INVITATION TO AN EC SUMMT AND THE POSITIVE REACTION TO THE IDEA OF A PRODUCER-CONSUMER MEETING SHOULD BE SEEN AS BONN'S "GRASPING FRANCE'S OUTSTRETCHED HAND" (AS ONE FONOFF OFFICIAL PUT IT) IN THE HOPE THAT BOTH THE
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COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD ECONOMY WOULD BENEFIT FROM FRANCE'S GRADUAL DIVORCEMENT FROM THE DEGAULLE/POMPIDOU RHETORIC AS WELL A SUBSTANTIVE SHIFT IN POLICY ORIENTATION. BONN VIEWS POSITIVELY GISCARD'S DECISION NOT TO BLOCK THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IEP WITHIN THE OECD, WHICH LEAVES THE DOOR OPEN TO THE POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER SLIGHT, OF FRANCE'S EVENTUAL ASSOCIATION WITH THE IEP. BONN CAN BE COUNTED ON TO TRY TO PERSUADE

PARIS TO MOVE IN THAT DIRECTION. IN THE INTERIM, BONN'S
UNEQUIVOCAL COMMITMENT TO THE OBJECTIVES AND THE
SUCCESS OF THE IEP CANNOT BE QUESTIONED. THE FRG'S
REACTION TO GISCARD'S CALL FOR A PRODUCER-CONSUMER MEET-
ING IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED GER-
MAN VIEWS THAT ECG/IEP ARE FIRST STEPS IN A PROCESS
WHICH SHOULD LEAD TO A PRODUCER-CONSUMER CONFERENCE AND
THAT THE QUESTION YET TO BE ADDRESSED IS ONE OF TIMING.
THE FRG'S POSITIVE RESPONSE TO GISCARD'S INITIATIVE IS
PREDICATED ON THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD LEAD TO FRANCE'S
ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN THE COLLECTIVE CONSIDERATION OF THE
PROBLEM AND WEAN PARIS AWAY FROM BILATERAL APPROACHES.
HILLENBRAND

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